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Company plans to pick rig up again in early 2009

West Bay Exploration releases Advanced Energy Rig 2 after drilling 33 southern Michigan holes in 20-month period

CALHOUN COUNTY, Mich. — West Bay Exploration Co. and Advanced Energy Services LLC's Rig 2 have completed a nearly exclusive run of drilling 33 holes together in Calhoun and Jackson counties over a 20-month period.

The run began on March 14, 2007 when Advanced Energy Rig 2 spudded West Bay's Double Eagle Farms 2-12 in Section 12 of Calhoun County's Marengo Township (T2S-R5W) and ended on Nov. 22, 2008 with completion of drilling on the Lantis et al 1-29, in Section 29 of Napoleon Township (T3S-R2E), Jackson County.

Five and one-half inch production casing was run late last week on the Lantis et al 1-29, a rank wildcat Trenton-Black River prospect.

All but two of the holes drilled have been in West Bay's ongoing Albion-Scipio redevelopment play in Calhoun County's Marengo (T2S-R5W), Lee (T1S-R5W), Sheridan (T2S-R4W), and Albion (T3S-R4W) townships. The other two prospects were located in Jackson County.

According to Tim Baker, southern Michigan operations manager for West Bay, the company has released the rig for now, but plans to pick it up again shortly after the beginning of the New Year.

Baker said the company was tentatively planning some down time to give its employees and the rig's crew a break during the holiday season anyway, and chose to release the rig until at least the end of the year.

Of the 33 holes Rig 2 has drilled for West Bay since March 2007, 22 have been completed for oil production, with six confirmed as dry holes. The remaining five wells were being completed or tested at

latest report.

After sharing Rig 2 with two other operators during a stretch in July and August

2008, only one hole drilled in late 2007 and early 2008 interrupted a streak of 29 holes drilled by Rig 2 for West Bay.